

English 101: College Reading and Composition

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Course Description: Principles and methods set forth in writing, reading, and analysis of prose. Requires the critical reading of nonfiction prose and the writing of 8700 words.

Prerequisites: Placement via successful assessment test score or successful completion of English 28 or English 363 with a grade of C or better.

Class Hours: M 6:45-9:55 p.m. in H111

Office Hours: M 6:10-6:45pm in H111

Class Web Sites:

Wordpress: <http://writing.laccdssi.org/>; Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/lavc101fall17/>

Required Materials:

- Logbook or Journal [a flat, thin plastic loose-leaf binder (8 1/2" x 11")]
- College-Ruled Notebook Paper
- 3 Large-Sized Bluebooks
- Course readings will be posted on the class website and class FB group:
<http://writing.laccdssi.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lavc101fall17/>

Course Student Learning Outcomes: 1. Write focused, coherently organized, well-developed texts, appropriate to the transfer level, that effectively integrate, synthesize, and document sources.
2. Demonstrate critical reading, thinking, and research skills through analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of important ideas encompassing multiple points of view.

Course Assignments: This class is an introduction to composition, designed to help you become a competent writer. Writing affects the way we think and learn, as well as our chances of success, our personal development, and our relations with other people. Since most academic writing is based on reading, it is important to learn to read critically, understanding the connections between reading and writing. The emphasis in this class is on learning by doing, so expect to read and write often. Assignments are mandatory and must be turned in on time.

Essays (30% of grade): This course requires that you will write three 4-6 page essays. Each essay will count for a different percentage of your grade. You must turn in all drafts, notes, prewriting, and peer reviews with each essay.

Journal (15% of grade): Your journal will include all warm-ups, reading responses and other assignments from each textbook, group activities, "one minute" papers, and the like. Simply speaking, the journal includes all work done in class and all homework.

In-Class Essay Exams (20% of grade): You will be required to write three in-class writing exams. There will be no make up-exams unless prior arrangements are made with me. You are required to take all three exams.

Participation (25% of grade—includes group project and presentation): This class is conducted collaboratively as a workshop; therefore, your regular participation is essential for our success. Participation includes all work, written and oral: impromptu writing responses, group exercises, peer reviews, in-class discussion, research projects, email and internet postings, etc. You must be in class in order to participate!

Portfolio (10% of grade): All English 101 students submit a portfolio containing clean copies of the final versions of their three 4-6 page essays, plus a cover letter, all in MLA-format, at the end of the semester.

Attendance Policy: As in all English sections, you are allowed one week's worth of class absences during the semester, no questions asked. Every absence after two absences will impact class participation and success in this class. Please note further that three tardies equals one absence. Please do not make a habit of being late (see attendance policy below under exclusion). If you do not attend class, you are still responsible for the material and content of the class. Set up a buddy system today with at least two individuals in this class-- then you can always find out what you missed. If you come without your assignment on a day it is due, that will impede your participation as if you were not there [remember, this class is conducted workshop-style]. If you leave part-way through a class session, that's considered an absence (unless excused). If you come consistently late, latenesses turn into absences. I will make every effort to attend each class and to be well prepared; I expect you to do the same. If you must miss more than the allowed absences, please make an appointment with me. Excessive absence may prevent your successful completion of the course. Additional Note: About Exclusion--The instructor reserves the right to exclude students from the course due to excessive absences. Any student who has absences totaling six or more hours of classroom time is subject to exclusion. IF YOU DECIDE THAT YOU NO LONGER WISH TO ATTEND THE COURSE, HOWEVER, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DROP OR WITHDRAW. Please see also attendance and withdrawal policies described in the current semester schedule of classes.

Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism is the use of others' words and/or ideas without clearly acknowledging their source. When you incorporate those words and ideas into your own work, you must give credit where credit is due. Anyone found to be plagiarizing or cheating will (1) receive a zero (fail) on the assignment, and (2) be referred to the Vice President of Student Services for further disciplinary action, following due process.

For more information please see the Board Rules on Student Discipline:
<https://www.laccd.edu/Board/Documents/BoardRules/Ch.IX-ArticleXI.pdf>

Draft-Format Policy: All drafts of essays must be typed according to MLA-Format. Drafts which do not conform strictly to this format will automatically receive lower and possibly non-passing grades.

Reading Response Policy: In your journal, you are expected to comment analytically to every piece of literature or reading assigned. Your entries are not to primarily consist of summary (although some summary is allowed); instead you are to react, respond, analyze and synthesize your thoughts and feelings regarding the ideas and details presented in each work. Expect to write two full pages minimum per article or essay and two full pages minimum per 40 pages of a longer work.

Testing Policy: There will be three in-class exams consisting of essay questions based on your reading and understanding of the material assigned. Students will be allowed to make up any missed exams only if the instructor is notified in advance. Such absences must be for legitimate, documented purposes. The makeup exam will most likely be a different form of the exam. No student will be allowed to take an exam prior to its scheduled time.

If you are a student with a disability and require classroom accommodations, please meet with me to discuss arrangements. If you have not yet contacted DSPS, do so in a timely manner. Call DSPS at 818-947-2681 or TTD 818-947-2680.

Financial Aid Financial Aid is available! Call (818) 947-2412. Go to the Financial Aid Office in the Student Services Center, first floor. For more info: <http://www.lavc.edu/financialaid/>.

Attached are the grading criteria for this course.

Further addendums to this syllabus will be/are forthcoming. All assignments are subject to change at any time, but the basic course requirements and the grading contract as outlined in this syllabus are not subject to negotiation or change.